CLAIMS

- 1. A method of color correction for an image-outputting device for outputting an image using a combination of a plurality of coloring materials each having different constituent material, said method of color correction for an image-outputting device comprising:
 - a) a first glossiness obtaining step for obtaining glossiness of a monocolor output produced individually with each said coloring material;
 - b) a second glossiness obtaining step for obtaining glossiness of a mixed-color output produced by combining two or more of said coloring materials;
 - c) a first relation obtaining step for obtaining a relation between amount of said coloring material used for said mono-color output and the glossiness;
 - d) a second relation obtaining step for obtaining a relation between a total amount of said coloring materials used for said mixed-color output and the glossiness;
 - e) a third relation obtaining step for obtaining a relation between a mixing ratio of said coloring materials used for said mixed-color output and the glossiness; and
 - f) a coloring material combination determining step for determining a combination of said coloring materials with respect to variation of glossiness based on the relations obtained in said first through third relation obtaining steps.
- 2. A method of color correction for an image-outputting device for outputting an image using a combination of a plurality of coloring materials each having different constituent material, said method of color correction for an image-outputting device comprising:
 - a) a glossiness obtaining step for obtaining glossiness of a mono-color

10

5

15

20

25 5. J A 4 }

30

output produced individually with each said coloring material;

- b) a glossiness estimation step for estimating glossiness, for a case where two or more of said coloring materials are mixed, by using the glossiness obtained for each of said coloring materials;
- c) a first relation obtaining step for obtaining a relation between amount of said coloring material used for said mono-color output and the glossiness;
- d) a second relation obtaining step for obtaining a relation between a total amount of said coloring materials used for said mixed-color output and the glossiness;
- e) a third relation obtaining step for obtaining a relation between a mixing ratio of said coloring materials used for said mixed-color output and the glossiness; and
- f) a coloring material combination determining step for determining a combination of said coloring materials with respect to variation of glossiness based on the relations obtained in said first through third relation obtaining steps.
- 3. A method of color correction for an image-outputting device for outputting an image using a combination of four primary printing colors of cyan, magenta, yellow and black, said method of color correction for an image-outputting device comprising:
 - a) a glossiness obtaining step for obtaining glossiness of a mono-color output produced individually with said coloring materials;
 - b) a glossiness estimation step for estimating glossiness, for a case where two or more of said coloring materials are mixed, by using the glossiness obtained for each of said coloring materials;
 - c) a first relation obtaining step for obtaining a relation between amount of said coloring material used for said mono-color output and the glossiness;

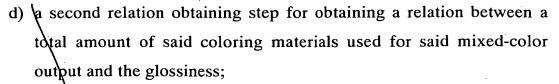
10

5

15

25

20



- e) a third relation obtaining step for obtaining a relation between a mixing ratio of said coloring materials used for said mixed-color output and the glossiness;
- f) a coloring material combination determining step for determining a combination of said coloring materials with respect to variation of glossiness based on the relations obtained in said first through third relation obtaining steps; and
- g) a black mixing amount determination step for determining a mixing amount of black according to said determined combination.
- 4. A method of color correction used in outputting a color image on a recording paper by superposing a plurality of coloring materials, said method of color correction being characterized by controlling a total amount of said coloring materials, and comprising the steps of:

obtaining individual amounts of said coloring materials composing the color image;

obtaining the total amount of said coloring materials from the individual amounts of said coloring materials;

adjusting the total amount of said coloring materials into a match with a threshold and adopting the threshold as a reference table value, if the threshold is smaller than the total amount of said coloring materials; and

adopting the total amount of said coloring materials as it is, as a reference table value, if the threshold is greater than the total amount of said coloring materials.

5. The method of color correction according to claim 4, wherein the

20

5

10

15

30

25

5

10

total amount is controlled by adjusting amounts of coloring materials other than a coloring material of black color, in a case where one of said plurality of coloring materials is black.

6. The method of color correction according to claim 4 further comprising the steps of:

obtaining a distance between a coordinate point of an input color and another coordinate point of black color in a color space of input color signal;

obtaining a threshold from the obtained distance; and controlling the total amount of said coloring materials using the threshold.